



**Parks and Recreation Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes, June 1, 2015; 4:30 PM  
Conference Room  
Public Works Facility**

**ITEM 1**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 4:33 PM – The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeff Dobbs. Committee members present were John Kelly, Alan Mogridge, Deborah Page and Committee Liaison Public Works Director Chip Reeves. Others in attendance were Dr. William Horner of Bar Harbor Brass Week, Dan Granholm of the North Shore Tennis Center, and Bonnie and Arnold Lundquist.

**ITEM 2**

**A. Excused Absence(s):** Eric Ankrom.

**ITEM 3**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Mogridge moved, with second by Mr. Kelly, to approve the Agenda; motion passed (3-0).

**ITEM 4**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Mogridge moved, with second by Mr. Kelly, to approve the Minutes of May 4, 2015; motion passed (3-0).

[For clarity to these Minutes, a voting member of the Committee arrived at this point in the meeting.]

**ITEM 5  
REGULAR BUSINESS**

**A. Request from Bar Harbor Brass Week to Hold its Annual Concert on the Village Green from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Saturday, June 27, 2015.**

Dr. Horner represented the applicant in support of its application. The application fee and insurance liability certificate have been received. He announced that this year's concert will be the last for this event. Chair Dobbs reviewed the application using the Findings of Fact Sheet.

Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Mogridge, to approve the application; motion passed (4-0).

**B. Tennis Courts: Bonnie Lundquist Request to Use Courts for Pickleball Games.**

Ms. Lundquist requested that pickleball court lines be superimposed over one of the public tennis courts (preferably court B) and provided a sketch of the court layout. She and Mr. Mogridge have met with Rocky Clark, regional director of USA Pickleball Association, who recommends the use

of rose colored lines as the most compatible with tennis lines. Pickleball court lines are narrower than tennis court lines. The Ellsworth tennis courts and Armstrong Tennis Center in Bangor both use tennis courts with pickleball lines. Mr. Granholm said that the youth tennis courts use different sets of lines; Mr. Mogridge added that the YMCA basketball courts also have different sets of lines. Mr. Reeves reported an estimate of \$500 for two pickleball courts to be applied to one tennis court, noting that the current FY15 budget is expended. Mr. Lundquist noted that the tennis net would stay in place; most pickleball is played with portable nets. The YMCA has one, and some individuals have their own.

Chair Dobbs remarked that it is important to have the public courts used. Ms. Page said she is comfortable with using two courts and would encourage pickleball use for a small amount of time. Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Mogridge, to recommend to the Public Works Department to have a tennis court painted with pickleball lines according to the appropriate specifications; motion passed (4-0).

The discussion moved to address a proposed summer 2015 public tennis court schedule for lessons provided under agreement between the North Shore Tennis Center and the MDI YMCA. Committee member Mogridge is the MDI YMCA Executive Director and recused himself from any vote on the topic. With regard to the schedule, Mr. Granholm of the North Shore Tennis Center requested the availability of two courts for different skill levels and to also include an evening option. A schedule could be posted two weeks in advance. He suggested that the YMCA could create the schedule, but not enforce it. Mr. Granholm suggested a three-day advance sign-up.

Mr. Kelly inquired if Bar Harbor residents would be treated differently for pricing. He added that the tennis courts are Town property with maintenance costs funded by the Town. Mr. Mogridge reported that generally the YMCA programs are priced for members and non-members with Bar Harbor residents comprising 93% of the membership base. He prefers not to reduce pricing for the tennis program. Mr. Granholm suggested charging \$15 per 1½ hours with sessions of four lessons.

Mr. Mogridge said a formal agreement would be drawn up for presentation to the Committee. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Town and the MDI YMCA outlines other programs. Mr. Reeves suggested that free lessons for Town residents could be offered under the MOU. He recommended that North Shore Tennis Center should not be included in the MOU with the Town.

Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Ms. Page, to recommend the arrangement for two courts based on the proposed dates and times; motion passed (3-0).

### **C. Dog Waste on Town Parks.**

Ms. Page reported on her research in other areas regarding approaches to the dog waste problem; practices vary. Websites claim compliance increases with containers and bags provided; different styles were described, including tamperproof by animals. She suggested locating bags near existing trash cans.

Mr. Reeves reminded the Committee that, when receptacles for feces are provided, special training for risks (i.e., medications) is required for handlers of the waste. The local area just experienced a bad winter followed by a wet spring, which emphasized the problem. There is an ordinance with fines of up to \$50 for violation. If people were ticketed, results would be realized; but then, the

Police Department would require more staff. The Public Works crew cleans Hadley Point Landing three times a week of feces. The Public Works Department already maintains 110 trash cans in the summer. The Chamber of Commerce put out cans for returnable bottles and cans; people used them for trash, which fell to the Town crew to clean up. He said the problem should not be shifted to Public Works to put up and maintain bag stations. He questioned why the Town should have to shoulder the responsibility of cleaning up after people's pets.

Mr. Kelly said he did not like the addition of more and more in the Town parks. Every time there is a need, something is added. He proposes a new discussion regarding a place for dogs that is not the parks. The Town does not allow a free run for dogs, but they do and then relieve themselves. An appropriate place is needed.

Mr. Mogridge reported that he is treasurer of HUB of Bar Harbor, which held an open house organized around four stations for a public forum. About 50 people showed up. Dog feces was the biggest topic. The HUB is discussing putting up bags, but no receptacles. Mr. Kelly said that, if the HUB intends to include Town parks in its projects, it should have a discussion with this Committee. Mr. Mogridge will invite the HUB project committee to meet with the Parks and Recreation Committee.

#### **D. Other Discussion.**

- Signage: Mr. Reeves recommended that Committee members walk through the parks and note the red X on park signs, some of which are State signs. The wayfinding sign designer has suggested their removal and solicits Parks and Recreation Committee comments. The wayfinding sign program was approved and funded by the Cruise Ship Committee and managed by the Chamber of Commerce.

- Committee Member Terms to Expire: Chair Dobbs reminded that the terms for Ms. Page and Mr. Kelly expire in June 2015. He advised that they may renew on-line, then swear in with Town Clerk Pat Gray.

#### **ITEM 6 NEXT MEETING DATE As needed.**

#### **ITEM 7 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 5:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Banis  
Recording Secretary